

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending November 18, 2001. The continued dry weather is starting to hurt pastures and fall seedings. Soil moisture was rated 19 percent very short, 61 percent short, 20 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2000	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	Harvested	99	96	100	99	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Harvested	99	98	99	97	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	94	84	84	90	0	7	22	37	34
	Emerged	68	58	68	77					
Cattle						1	6	20	60	13
Hay Supply						Adequate			Surplus	
						62			38	
Feed Grain						95			5	

County Agent Comments

“Below average cotton yields and low cotton prices are forcing changes upon our local cotton producers. The adoption of reduced tillage and reduced fall inputs are part of those changes. Some of our 2001 producers will not be farming in 2002. Significantly less cotton will be planted next year.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore County

“We are in desperate need for rain. Some producers report ryegrass is dying. A lot of cool- season grazing has not germinated and some has not been planted. The grazing will be delayed this year. The abundant hay stored will greatly help.”

—Shelby Bearden Copiah County

“We continue suffering the ill effects of terribly dry soil moisture conditions. No one has grass ready for grazing; typically we turn in on ryegrass/small grains in early- to- mid October. Beef and dairy producers need to have cattle grazing ryegrass/small grain pastures but will not be able to do so anytime soon. Even if we receive significant rainfall today, most producers will not have grass ready for grazing for another two to three weeks. Hay feeding has begun as the summer perennial grasses have gone into dormancy and been grazed short. Dairy producers continue positioning themselves for significant declines in milk prices over the next several months.”

—Lamar Adam, Walthall County

“Harvest is progressing rapidly due to good harvest weather. Cotton producers are reporting good yields, but the winter pastures are suffering. The lack of rainfall has local cattle producers starting to feed hay. Luckily we have plenty of hay.”

—Mike Steede, George County

“Weather conditions have been ideal for fall calving. The cool temperatures and no rainfall days are really nice, but we are to a point where we need some rain. Ryegrass that was planted early will make excellent pastures soon with some moisture, and late planted grass will get a start for next spring's grazing period.”

—Stan Pace, Hancock County

“Producers need a good rain to stimulate growth in fall planted crops. The harvest is about over for cotton and soybeans. Livestock producers are starting to feed hay because of the poor growth in fall pastures.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

Weather Summary from November 12, 2001 to November 18, 2001 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	76	40	59	53	+6	0.00	-1.27	0	0.00				
Cleveland						0.00		0	0.60				
Tunica	75	41	58	52	+6	0.00	-1.20	0	0.33				
Extreme/Average	76	40	58	54	+4	0.00	-1.26	0	0.31				
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	76	31	55	51	+4	0.00	-1.31	0	0.93	63	52	57	
Memphis	77	44	60	53	+7	0.00	-1.20	0	0.44				
Oxford	80	35	58	52	+6	0.00	-1.35	0	0.62				
Extreme/Average	80	31	58	53	+5	0.00	-1.30	0	0.66	63	52	57	
3. Northeast													
Booneville	73	40	56	52	+4	0.00	-1.28	0	0.38				
Corinth	76	36	55	52	+3	0.00	-1.29	0	0.00				
Iuka	75	30	51			0.00		0	0.61				
Pontotoc	76	40	58	53	+5	0.00	-1.15	0	0.65				
Tupelo	76	37	56	53	+3	0.00	-1.13	0	0.41				
Verona													
Extreme/Average	76	30	55	52	+3	0.00	-1.23	0	0.41				
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				56									
Greenwood	78	37	60	55	+5	0.00	-1.17	0	0.79				
Rolling Fork	80	40	60	55	+5	0.00	-1.10	0	0.07	73	60	66	0.08
Stoneville				55		0.00	-1.32	0	0.01				
Yazoo City	78	40	60	57	+3	0.00	-1.14	0	0.03				
Extreme/Average	80	37	60	55	+5	0.00	-1.23	0	0.23	73	60	66	0.08
5. Central													
Carthage	77	35	57	55	+2	0.00	-1.14	0	0.22				
Jackson	78	38	59	56	+3	0.00	-1.13	0	0.03				
Winona	77	34	54	52	+2	0.00	-1.17	0	0.47				
Extreme/Average	78	34	57	55	+2	0.00	-1.14	0	0.24				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	73	40	58			0.00	-1.01	0	0.48	61	55	58	
Columbus	77	37	57	54	+3	0.00	-1.12	0	0.13				
State University				55		0.00	-0.98	0	0.32				0.05
Extreme/Average	77	37	57	54	+3	0.00	-1.09	0	0.31	61	55	58	0.05
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	80	45	62			0.00		0	0.00	76	58	68	
Natchez	76	38	58	59	-1	0.00	-1.17	0	0.00				
Oakley	84	36	60	56	+4	0.00	-1.10	0	0.00	76	53	66	
Vicksburg	78	39	61			0.00		0	0.35				
Extreme/Average	84	36	60	58	+2	0.00	-1.11	0	0.09	76	53	67	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	77	41	60	58	+2	0.00	-1.09	0	0.07				
McComb	77	42	61	57	+4	0.00	-1.09	0	0.01				
Extreme/Average	77	41	60	57	+3	0.00	-1.06	0	0.04				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	79	37	59			0.00		0	0.00				
Hattiesburg	80	45	62	58	+4	0.00	-1.13	0	0.06				
Laurel	77	38	58	57	+1	0.00	-1.02	0	0.00				
Meridian	82	35	58	56	+2	0.00	-1.04	0	0.06				
Newton	78	31	55	55	0	0.00	-1.02	0	0.08	67	51	58	0.10
Extreme/Average	82	31	58	57	+1	0.00	-1.06	0	0.04	67	51	58	0.10
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	83	38	62			0.00		0	0.00				
BiloxiAFB	75	50	62			0.00		0	0.00				
Gulfport	76	46	62	61	+1	0.00	-0.99	0	0.00				
Pascagoula	79	39	60			0.00		0	0.00				
Poplarville	77	46	62	59	+3	0.00	-1.01	0	0.00	77	61	69	0.14
Extreme/Average	83	38	62	60	+2	0.00	-1.01	0	0.00	77	61	69	0.14
State	84	30	58	56	+2	0.00	-1.14	0	0.22	77	51	62	0.10

DFN = Departure from Normal.